Study on Link between Darbhanga and Farbisganj

† 1037. SHRI RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the latest details of the progress of feasibility study to meet alignment, to prepare initial proposal to construct the missing link between Darbhanga and Farbisganj on National Highway-57;

(b) the details of funds released and expenditure incurred on this scheme;

(c) whether any funds have been released towards maintenance and betterment of this highway; if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount of funds sanctioned for the construction of missing link in the year 2000-2001 and the targets fixed for the progress to be made in this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY. OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The feasibility reports have been received by State Road Construction Department from the consultants. State Road Construction Department has examined the report and asked for modification of the same.

(b) An expenditure of Rs. 23.86 lakh has been incurred so far.

(c) In the reach from Darbhanga to Farbisganj, the portion from Jhanjharpur to Farbisganj is the missing link. Ministry has directed National Highway Wing of State Road Construction Department to take over the balance reach from Darbhanga to Jhanjharpur for maintenance. They have intimated that National Highway Wing take over this portion in October, 2000. In the meantime it is being maintained by State Road Construction Department from state fund.

(d) For missing link, a provision of Rs. 200 lakhs has been proposed in the Annual Plan 2000-2001 for Land Acquisition. It is too early to indicate the targets to be fixed for the progress of this project as sanctions depend upon the acquisition of land, availability of fund and interese priority of work.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.